



## Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA

*1990, 1992, 1993 & 1998 Newsletter Award Recipient*

*June 2002*

### **ASPA Chapter Officers 2001-2002**

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#### **Chapter Council**

Dr. Pete Carlson  
Sylvia Hill  
Jerry Hoddinott (Marketing Chair)  
Dr. William Leavitt  
Dr. Berhanu Mengistu  
Terry Moore  
Earl Sorey  
Erica Woods-Warrior (Student Rep.)

**Program and Event  
planning for 2002-2003  
will begin next month!  
Share your ideas with a  
Council Member today!!!**

**And, read a special story on Page  
6 about how the City of Hampton  
is honoring a local hero!**

## President's Message

By Joyce Heffington

As incoming President for our chapter, I set a goal of working with council to make our chapter better. I looked at three ways we could do this. First, was for our chapter to work more closely with COMPA. I think that we have come a long way towards this. There has been a reciprocal relationship between us for sharing and supporting each other's events. COMPA President Lawsey Thomas has been very supportive. He conducted an excellent session on networking for our Student Symposium.

The second way I felt we could make our chapter better was to do more for students. Our student symposium went a long way towards this. We also worked harder to get the word out about ASPA in the universities. As a result we have more students joining and participating from several universities. We were also able to give a scholarship for a Public Administration Student, and are working to set up a perpetual fund so that this can occur each year.

Third, I wanted members to get more involved with our chapter activities. I feel this also has occurred. Instead of the same few faithful members doing most of the work, we had new members volunteer to be on committees and to take office next year. This is great. With new people being involved come new ideas and fresh enthusiasm.

Often we have a tendency in life to set lofty goals and then are disappointed when they are not achieved. I feel that this was not the case. The goal I set for our chapter was very realistic. I want to thank all of you who worked so hard to achieve it in the three ways I had hoped for. I especially want to thank our wonderful officers who have worked so hard, been so faithful, and have supported me this year.

I know I leave the leadership of this chapter in good hands!

Sincerely,  
Joyce Heffington, President

## Members' Corner

### New Members/Jobs/Promotions/Awards

Dr. Leonard I. Ruchelman, Professor of Urban Studies & Public Administration at Old Dominion University, has been designated a Distinguished Scholar in Public Administration by the Virginia Social Science Association.

Dave McCleese, City of Virginia Beach, was appointed to the executive committee of the ASPA Section on Public Administration at the Phoenix conference. This is for a 3-year term expiring 2005. SPAR is affiliated with the Journal of Public Administration and Research and Theory (JPART), and is switching to another journal this year. The chair is Guy Adams at U. Missouri at Columbia.

If anyone has news to share with fellow chapter members on a new job, promotion, award, etc., please contact [Leslie Beauregard](#), E-Newsletter Editor.

## Events Calendar

Programs and events for 2002-2003 will be posted later this summer.

## **Chapter Holds Annual Awards Luncheon In Celebration of National Public Service Recognition Week**

**By Joyce Heffington, HRSD**

The Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA held their annual awards luncheon on May 9, 2002 as a part of National Public Service Recognition Week. Each year the Chapter recognizes outstanding local public servants at this event. The luncheon speaker this year was Senator Frederick M. Quayle. After giving the luncheon address, Senator Quayle presented a framed Senate resolution to Mrs. Nancy Pindur, celebrating the life and work of her husband, Dr. Wolfgang Pindur. We had the pleasure of the presence of Julian Hirst at our luncheon.

### The Julian F. Hirst Award

The Julian F. Hirst Award for Distinguished Public Service is awarded to an outstanding public administrator over the age of 35. This award is named for the former outstanding City Manager of Norfolk. Since the Olympic Committee felt they had to award a double gold in pairs figure skating this year, the awards committee felt we had two worthy recipients for the Julian F. Hirst Award. The first co-recipient was Mr. Arthur Collins, Executive Director of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Art Collins started with the Southeastern Virginia Planning District Commission in 1970 and was appointed Executive Director in 1979. In 1990 when the Southeastern Virginia Planning District Commission merged with the Peninsula Planning District Commission to form the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, Mr. Collins was appointed Executive Director of the new organization.

Art serves on the Boards a number of non-profits

and is a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. As a member of the MPO he has literally spent many hours both day and night trying to look out for the transportation interests of our region. As a member of the MPO he has literally spent many hours both day and night trying to look out for the transportation interests of the region.

In one of his numerous letters of recommendation it states, "It is noteworthy that Mr. Collins serves not one jurisdiction but sixteen local governments that comprise the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and has been able to guide them through many difficult policy decisions with patience and clarity of purpose. His knowledge of the numerous, ever changing issues that have faced the commission during his tenure has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers and the elected officials he serves. His ability to develop consensus on even the most sensitive of issues, speaks volumes about his ability as an administrator. He approaches all issues with sensitivity and scrupulousness, ever mindful of protecting the well established reputation for objective and thorough research that the planning district has earned under his leadership."

The second co-recipient for the Julian F. Hirst award this year is Mr. Sanford B. Wanner, County Administrator for James City County. Sandy is a dedicated lifetime public servant. He served his Country for over 20 years in the Marine Corps. Sandy has spent almost his entire civilian career with James City County. Sandy also has served many non-profit organizations.

Sandy is a very accessible leader. He publishes his home telephone number so that citizens can contact him directly, regularly passes through the county offices, and attends community and social events, including an orientation for new citizens and a cable program highlighting actions of the Board of Supervisors. One letter of recommendation states Sandy, "maintains

numerous contacts with individuals and groups outside the scope of his responsibility as a manager. Many citizens, especially those from poorer areas, have first hand acquaintance with him."

The best and most honest evaluation comes from those you serve. The President of one Community Association wrote in their letter of recommendation, "Sandy Wanner has been a great help to (our community.) He has supported our community in social activities and physical improvements of our meeting place. Sandy participates in our ... Community Day, which is held annually. His presence is welcomed not just because he is County Administrator, but also because he is a wonderful person. He is honest, compassionate and just plain down to earth."

#### The George Robert House Award

The George Robert House Award for Outstanding Public Service, is awarded to an outstanding public administrator age 35 and under. This award is named for the former City Manager of Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Portsmouth because he mentored younger City Employees. This award went to Ms. Leslie Beauregard. In 1997 Leslie started working as a Budget Assistant for the City of Hampton where she has continued working her way up to her present position of Sr. Management and Legislative Analyst. During her time with Hampton, Leslie led the team that designed, implemented and maintains the Budget Office's first web page, which includes City financial information, the City's legislative priorities, and a citizen feedback form. She has written an instruction manual on how to take grants to City Council for appropriation; led the team that prepared and packaged the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award submission for FY 2000 and FY 2001. This submission resulted in winning the award for the first time since FY 1992. She has developed more efficient and cost saving

methods to provide budget information to the City Council and the City Manager, resulting in a savings on printing and overtime of \$2,500.

Her community work is too great to list. She received the City of Hampton Achievement Award in 1997 and 1998, Volunteer of the Year Award, and the Award for Outstanding Service to the Annual ICMA Conference. I would like to say that her service to the Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA has been invaluable. Among other services, she created our website, is our newsletter editor and webmistress. I don't know what I would have done without Leslie these last two years!

#### Dr. Wolfgang Pindur Award

This award is new this year. Dr. Pindur was the chapter's former president who passed away unexpectedly last June. Wolfgang did an incredible job of linking the roles of Practitioner and Academic. While teaching and conducting research in the Public Administration and Urban Studies Departments of Old Dominion University, Dr. Pindur assisted a number of city, state and Federal government agencies, providing the expertise needed to establish a number of programs to meet the needs of diverse groups of citizens. The Dr. Wolfgang Pindur Award went to Mr. Robert Fenning, Vice President for Administration and Finance at Old Dominion University.

Mr. Fenning began his public service career as a Captain in the Air Force where he received the Air Force Commendation Medal for Outstanding Achievement. His civilian career before coming to ODU includes Director of Community Development for Hickory, NC, and Assistant Vice Presidencies of several Universities. Like Dr. Pindur, Mr. Fenning has prepared and administered federal grants, coordinated program planning, data collection and analysis for decision making, conducted research, and instructed in the classroom.

In 1996 Mr. Fenning came to ODU as the

Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance, and he is now the Vice President for Administration and Finance. In his current position he serves as the chief business officer of the University and serves as the executive director of the ODU Real Estate Foundation.

Mr. Fenning's community service includes serving on committees, lecturing and consulting. He recently helped in the establishment of the Peninsula Workforce Development Center.

Mr. Fenning is responsible for overseeing and directing the renovations of Constant Hall, the construction of the convocation center, the parking garage, two new residences, the university village, an alumni facility, a golf course, and planning for five major renovation projects and two new buildings. He has demonstrated creativity in finding ways to offer the services the student and public require at a time when funding has been severely reduced and encourages others to work together to create greater efficiencies.

According to his letters of recommendation, Robert Fenning "leads by example and by caring. He is honest even if it means taking positions, which are unpopular. He is always ready to help. You can count on him day and night. In hard times, he never shirks his duty. Indeed, he asks to do more to help. Mr. Fenning has always placed the interests of the University before his own."



Robert Fenning receiving the Dr. Wolfgang Pindur Award for Distinguished Public Service by Joyce Heffington, Chapter President. Also present is ODU President Rosanne Runte.

#### Scholarship Recipient

In the fall of 2001, the Chapter held its first annual Student Symposium. This all day event was offered to local junior, senior and graduate college students interested in a career in public service. The students were offered sessions on resume preparation, getting back into the workforce, and interviewing and networking skills. In the afternoon, representatives from various departments of local government were available to talk about career opportunities in various fields of public service. Local cities and universities generously sponsored this event to minimize the costs to students. Remaining funds are being used to provide scholarships this year and in the future for local students who want to pursue a career in public service.

The purpose of the scholarship is, "To recognize the potential for individual excellence in public service through educational assistance to members of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration." This year's \$1,000 scholarship went to Mr. John W. Phillips. Mr. Phillips is retired from the military and is pursuing a BA in Public Administration from St. Leo University. He holds a 3.91 grade point average. Upon

completion of his degree, John wishes to continue serving the community, focusing on public finance and taxation. The committee was impressed with a statement John made in his application. "I want to become a part of the people who make our communities, our states, our nation the envy of the free world."

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## Hampton Honoring A Local Hero

By Brian DeProfio, City of Hampton

In September 2001, Hampton City Council approved naming a new city administration building in downtown Hampton after Medal of Honor recipient and Hampton native, First Lieutenant Ruppert Leon Sargent.

During a sweep of a village in Hau Nghia Province of Vietnam on March 15, 1967, a former Viet Cong led 1LT Sargent and his men to an enemy outpost where they flushed two VC from hiding. One enemy soldier was cut down, the other tossed two grenades and fled. Sargent fired at the enemy then threw himself over the grenades. Though killed in the explosion Sargent's gallant efforts saved the lives of his two comrades.

Today 1LT Sargent is remembered by family, friends, former colleagues and others as a man who always did the best he could and did what was right with a lot of heart. Sargent earned the respect and admiration of those who knew him and, ultimately, the Country. He was awarded the Medal of Honor in July 1968, making him the

only Hampton native so recognized.

The Medal of Honor Project Committee, which includes veterans, city staff, and other volunteers, is working to raise \$70,000. The money will be used to construct a permanent tribute in the lobby of the new building that will honor Ruppert Sargent and all who serve their country. The tribute will include a bust of Sargent, a plaque honoring Hampton's veterans, as well as other tributes and a dedication ceremony to be held October 5, 2002, at 2:00 PM.

Donations may be sent to: City of Hampton Medal of Honor Project, c/o Brian DeProfio, City Manager's Office, 22 Lincoln Street, Hampton, Virginia 23669. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. For more information, visit the project's Web site at [www.hampton.gov/medalofhonor](http://www.hampton.gov/medalofhonor).